

REMARKS

[0003] Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of all of the claims of the application. Claims 53-87 are presently pending. Claims amended herein are 53, 60, 66, 70, 74, and 82. Claims withdrawn or cancelled herein are 1-52. New claims added herein are none.

Statement of Substance of Interview

[0004] The Examiner graciously talked with me—the undersigned representative for the Applicant—on 8/8/2007. Applicant greatly appreciates the Examiner's willingness to talk. Such willingness is invaluable to both of us in our common goal of an expedited prosecution of this patent application.

[0005] I understood the Examiner to say that he considers all of the pending claims—as amended herein—to be in condition of allowance over the art of record. Applicant herein amends the claims in the manner discussed during the interview. Accordingly, Applicant submits that the pending claims are allowable over the cited art of record for at least the reasons discussed during the interview.

Formal Request for an Interview

[0006] If the Examiner's reply to this communication is anything other than allowance of all pending claims, then I formally request an interview with the Examiner. I encourage the Examiner to call me—the undersigned representative for the Applicant—so that we can talk about this matter so as to resolve any outstanding issues quickly and efficiently over the phone.

[0007] Please contact me or my assistant to schedule a date and time for a telephone interview that is most convenient for both of us. While email works great for us, I welcome your call to either of us as well. Our contact information may be found on the last page of this response.

Claim Amendments and Additions

[0008] Without conceding the propriety of the rejections herein and in the interest of expediting prosecution, Applicant amends claims 53, 60, 66, 70, 74, and 82 herein.

Substantive Matters

Claim Rejections under § 102

[0009] The Examiner rejects claims 53-54, 57, 59-61, 64, 66-67, 70-71, 74-75, 78-79, 81-83, and 86-87 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Seth-Smith et al. (US 4,866,770). In addition, the Examiner rejects claims 53, 55, 57, 59-60, 62, 64, 66, 68, 70, 72, 74, 76, 78-79, 81-83, 84, and 86-87 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Ehram et al. (US 4,203,166).

[0010] Given the amendments herein and the agreements with the Examiner during the interview, Applicant submits that these rejections are moot. Accordingly, Applicant asks the Examiner to withdraw the rejections of these claims.

Claim Rejections under § 103

[0011] The Examiner rejects claims 56, 63, 69, 73, 77, and 85 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Seth-Smith in view of Hopper (US 3,406,344).

[0012] Given the amendments herein and the agreements with the Examiner during the interview, Applicant submits that these rejections are moot. Accordingly, Applicant asks the Examiner to withdraw the rejections of these claims.

Conclusion

[0013] All pending claims are now in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and prompt issuance of the application. If any issues remain that prevent issuance of this application, the **Examiner is urged to contact me before issuing a subsequent Action.** Please call/email me or my assistant at your convenience.

Dated: _____

9-3-07

Respectfully Submitted,

By: _____

Kasey C. Christie
Reg. No. 46576
(509) 324-9256 x242
kayla@leehayes.com
www.leehayes.com

My Assistant: Carly Bokarica
(509) 324-9256 x264
carly@leehayes.com